GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:263
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Spending on Education
Sahu Shri Chandu Lal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Gross Domestic Product presently spent on Higher Education in the country and plans drawn to improve the same;
(b) whether the Government is aware that most of education at graduate level in India is comparatively low when compared to global standards and if so, the reasons therefor; and
(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)
(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 263 BY SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU HON'BLE MP
REGARDING `SPENDING ON EDUCATION' TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2016
(a): As per publication `Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education - 2015' of Ministry of Human Resource Development, public expenditure on higher education as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the year 2013-14 is 1.34%
Allocation of funds for education is made by the Government keeping in view inter-se priority of other sector of the economy. During XII Five Year Plan, the Plan Outlay for the Department of Higher Education is Rs.1,10,700 crore as compared to actual expenditure in XI Five year Plan which was Rs.39,646.82 crore. This is an increase of about 2.79 times. This increase in Central Plan Outlay for Education Sector presents a determined effort on the part of Central Government for raising public spending on Higher Education.
The Government has approved the proposal for setting up the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) for financing creation of required infrastructure and for promotion of research facilities in the centrally aided institutions of higher learning by leveraging funds from the market. The Government would provide an equity of Rs. 1,000 Crore. The loans would be serviced from the internal accruals of these institutions, and the Government would meet the cost of interest on such loans. The process for finalization of the participating Bank is underway. With the devolution of more funds to the States as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, States are in position to prioritize allocation of funds to education sector.
(b) & (c): The quality of higher education in the country at all levels including graduate level is comparable with the global standards. However, to improve the quality of higher education in the country, Government has announced its resolve to promote 20 universities to become world-class teaching and research institutions − 10 public and 10 private through a liberalised regulatory framework. Accordingly, UGC has issued draft guidelines and invited suggestions from all stakeholders. Apart from this, various schemes, namely, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN), Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme(TEQIP), Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT) Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), National Digital Library, campus connect programme, Uchhatar Avishkar Abhiyan, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan are being implemented to improve the quality of higher education in the country.
The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) assess and accredit institutions of higher education in the country based on selected parameters such as curriculum, teachinglearning processes, evaluation, faculty, research, infrastructure etc. The accreditation of institutions by NAAC enables them to take remedial measures for qualitative improvement.
To ensure quality of education, the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) is engaged in periodic evaluation of technical institutions on the basis of programmes as per specified norms and standards in accordance with the best international practices with the overall objective of assurance of quality and relevance of education, especially in the programmes in professional and technical disciplines.
Ranking of the institutions under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is also being done to create a sense of competitiveness among them for better rating.

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